

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the instant application.

1-188. (canceled)

189. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to Ser (69) - Ser (208) of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide stimulates proliferation of epithelial cells.

190. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, having a Met residue at the N-terminus of said amino acid sequence.

191. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

192. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, which is produced in a recombinant cell.

193. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 192, wherein said recombinant cell is bacterial.

194. (currently amended) A composition comprising the The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, ~~together with~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

195. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 97% identical to Ser (69) - Ser (208) of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide stimulates proliferation of epithelial cells.

196. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, having a Met residue at the N-terminus of said amino acid sequence.

197. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

198. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, which is produced in a recombinant cell.

199. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 198, wherein said recombinant cell is bacterial.

200. (currently amended) A composition comprising the The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, ~~together with and~~ a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.